

### **Amendments to the Claims**

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~Piston~~ A piston and scraper assembly (26, 26') for a chromatography column, comprising a piston (5) and a scraper (25) wherein said piston (5) has a front, first face (7) a cylindrical portion (17), a second, rear face (15) and a through hole (11) connecting said first face (7) to said second face (15), and is provided with an annular groove (23, 23') of depth D1 mm in the cylindrical portion (17), and wherein the scraper (25) is a ring, adapted to fit onto piston (5), ~~with~~ having an L-shaped cross-section and having a complementary groove (39) of depth D2 mm in an inner face (37), characterised in that said annular groove (23, 23') is provided with a resilient sealing, locking and biasing means (45) which extends from said annular groove (23, 23') into said complementary groove (39) in order to retain said scraper (25) on said piston (5).

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~Piston and scraper assembly in accordance with claim 1 characterised in that~~ The piston and scraper assembly of claim 1, wherein said piston is provided with a further annular groove (21) containing a sealing means (43).

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~Piston and scraper assembly in accordance with any of the previous claims characterised in that~~ The piston and scraper assembly of claim 1, wherein said resilient sealing, locking and biasing means (45) is a sealing-ring with a thickness which is greater than  $D1 + D2$  mm.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~Piston and scraper assembly in accordance with any of claims 2-3 characterised in that~~ The piston and scraper assembly of claim 2, wherein

said further annular groove (21) is closer than said annular groove (23, 23') to the first, front face of piston (5).

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~Piston and scraper assembly in accordance with any of the previous claims characterised in that~~ The piston and scraper assembly of claim 1, wherein said scraper is made of a polymer material.